

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Original) A method of treating a skin disorder caused by an insect bite or sting wherein a composition comprising more than 90% by weight alkanol selected from C₁₋₄ alkane-monools, -diols and -triols and less than 10% by weight water, is applied to the area of skin affected by said disorder, and is retained in contact with the said area of skin for a period in the range 1 minute to 48 hours, whereby the sting or bite is cured.
2. (Original) A method according to claim 1 wherein the said period is in the range 5 minutes to 6 hours.
3. (Original) A method according to claim 1 in which a first dose of said composition is retained in contact with the skin for a period in the range 5 minutes to 6 hours and then a second dose of the composition is applied to the said area of skin and is retained in contact with the said area of skin for a further period in the range 5 minutes to 6 hours.
4. (Original) A method according to claim 1 wherein the composition further comprises a polymeric gelling agent dispersed or dissolved in the alkanol.

5. (Original) A method according to claim 4 wherein the active sting or bite curing ingredient consists essentially of said alkanol.

6. (Original) A method according to claim 5 wherein the said active consists essentially only of said alkanol.

7. (Original) A method according to claim 4 wherein said composition consists essentially only of alkanol, gelling agent and water.

8. (Original) A method according to claim 1 wherein the alkanol is ethanol.

9. (Canceled) A method of treating skin affected by an outbreak of herpes, wherein an antiviral composition consisting essentially of more than 90% by weight alkanol selected from C₁₋₄ alkane-mono-ols, -diols and -triols and less than 10% water, is contacted with the area of skin affected by said outbreak and is retained in contact with said area for a period of at least about 1 hour.

10. (Canceled) A method according to claim 9 wherein a first dose of the said composition is retained in contact with said area for a first period of about 1 hour and then one or more further doses of said composition is (are) applied to and retained in contact with said area each for a further period of at least about 1 hour.

11. (Canceled) A method according to claim 10 wherein, following said further doses, one or more follow-up doses of said composition is (are) applied to and retained in contact with said area each for a period of about 3 to about 5 hours until said outbreak is cured.

12. (Canceled) A method according to claim 9 wherein the composition comprises an effective gelling amount of a polymeric gelling agent dissolved or dispersed in the alcohol.

13. (Canceled) A method according to claim 12 wherein the polymeric gelling agent has a molecular weight of at least about 10^4 kDa and is present in the composition in an amount in the range 0.1 to 10% by weight.

14. (Canceled) A method according to claim 13 wherein the polymeric gelling agent is present in an amount in the range 0.5 to 2.0% by weight.

15. (Canceled) A method according to claim 9 wherein the said outbreak is of herpes labialis or herpes genitalis.

16. (Canceled) A method according to claim 9 wherein the composition is applied to and retained in contact with said area of skin from a cotton ball impregnated with said composition.

17. (Canceled) A method according to claim 9 wherein the concentration of alkanol in the composition is at least 95%.

18. (Canceled) A method according to claim 17 wherein said concentration is about 99%.

19. (Canceled) A method according to claim 10 wherein said first period is about 1 hour.

20. (Canceled) A method according to claim 10 wherein each further period is about 1 hour and in which there are 4 said further periods.

21. (Canceled) A method according to claim 1 wherein said concentration of alkanol is at least 95% by weight.

22. (Canceled) A method according to claim 21 wherein said concentration is about 99% by weight.

23. (Canceled) A method according to claim 9 in which said alkanol is ethanol.

24. (Canceled) A method according to claim 16 in which said alkanol is ethanol.

25. (Canceled) A method of treating a skin eruption caused by an intracellular infection of herpes virus by applying to the infected tissue an antiviral composition consisting essentially of more than 90% by weight from C₁₋₄ alkane-mono-ols and -diols, and less than 10% by weight of water.

26. (Canceled) A method according to claim 25 in which the alkanol is selected from methanol, ethanol, n-propanol, isopropanol, n-butanol and mixtures thereof.

27. (Canceled) A method according to claim 26 wherein the alkanol is selected from n-propanol and isopropanol and mixtures.

28. (Canceled) A method according to claim 26 in which the alkanol is n—propanol.

29. (Canceled) A method of treating a skin eruption caused by an intracellular infection of herpes virus by applying to the infected tissue a composition comprising at least 70% by weight n-propanol, and less than 30% by weight water.

30. (Canceled) A method of treating a skin eruption caused by an intracellular infection of herpes virus by applying to the infected tissue a composition comprising at least 80% by weight alkanol, selected from C₃- and C₄-alkane mono-ols and mixtures and less than 20% by weight water.

31. (Canceled) A composition for treating skin disorders comprising more than 90% by weight of an alkanol selected from isopropanol, n-propanol, mixtures of isopropanol and n-propanol, mixtures of propanol, selected from said 2 to isopropanol, n-propanol and mixtures thereof, and ethanol in which the ratio of propanol to ethanol is in the range 10:1 to 1:10, a polymeric gelling agent in an amount in the range 0.1 to 10% by weight and less than 10% by weight water.

32. (Canceled) A composition according to claim 31 comprising further an effective amount of an additional active ingredient selected from a local anaesthetic, an analgesic, an antihistamine and mixtures thereof.

33. (Canceled) A composition for treating skin disorders comprising more than 90% by weight of an alkanol selected from C₁, C₃ and C₄ alkanols, mixtures thereof and mixtures thereof with ethanol wherein the ratio of (C₁ C₃ and/or C₄ alkanol) : ethanol is in the range 1:10 to 10:1, a polymeric gelling agent in an amount in the range 0.1 to 10% by weight and less than 10% by weight water.

34. (Canceled) A composition according to claim 33 comprising further an effective amount of an additional active ingredient selected from a local anaesthetic, an analgesic, an anti-histamine and mixtures thereof.

35. (Canceled) A composition according to claim 33 comprising further one or more vitamins dissolved or dispersed in the alcohol.

37. (Original) A method of treating a skin disorder by applying to the skin a composition comprising more than 90% by weight of an alkanol selected from isopropanol, n-propanol, mixtures of isopropanol and n-propanol, mixtures of propanol, selected from isopropanol, n-propanol and mixtures thereof, and ethanol in which the ratio of propanol to ethanol is in the range 10:1 to 1:10, a polymeric gelling agent in an amount in the range 0.1 to 10% by weight and less than 10% by weight water.

38. (Original) A method of treating a skin disorder by applying to the skin a composition comprising more than 90% by weight of an alkanol selected from C₁, C₃ and C₄ alkanols, mixtures thereof and mixtures thereof with ethanol wherein the ratio of (C₁ C₃ and/or C₄ alkanol) : ethanol is in the range 1:10 to 10:1, a polymeric gelling agent in an amount in the range 0.1 to 10% by weight and less than 10% by weight water.